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16 December 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: Associate Deputy Director for
Intelligence

SUBJECT : OER Participation in Deputies Group
on Food, Economic Policy Board

1. The Deputies Group on Food was created in June 1974 under the Cabinet Committee on Food by President Nixon. On 1 November, the Cabinet Committee on Food was abolished and the Deputies Group was transferred to the Economic Policy Board. It includes representatives -- at the Assistant Secretary level -- from the Departments of State, Treasury, Commerce, and Agriculture, the Office of Management and Budget, the Council of Economic Advisers, the Council on International Economic Policy, and the Special Trade Representatives. CIA was invited to participate in early August and chose to become an ad hoc member. An OER representative has been attending weekly meetings since 22 August 1974.

2. One important function of the Deputies Group has been to monitor the international grain situation and its implication for US policy. The OER representative has provided updated information on Soviet grain prospects -- including production and import requirements -- and similar information for other important grain producers and/or importers as available. This information has been provided orally at the regular weekly meetings.

3. In addition to the information passed orally, OER has done papers on the world grain situation and the world sugar situation at the request of a member(s) of the Deputies Group. Although these papers have not been formally submitted to or approved by the Deputies Group, copies have been sent to most of the representatives, including the chairman, for their information. A list of the research reports and requesters are as follows:

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<u>Requester</u>	<u>Title</u>
Office of Management and Budget	The 1974/75 Grain Situation in Selected Countries, 11 Sep 74 (C)
Treasury	World Supply and Demand for Grain, 1974/74 (with emphasis on demand for US wheat and corn), 23 Sep 74 (C/NFD)
Treasury	World Sugar Market -- Current Situation and Short-Term Outlook, 10 Nov 74 (S/NFD)
Treasury	World Supply and Demand for Grain, 1974/75, 9 Dec 74 (C/NFD)

4. All of the above reports include a section(s) on the USSR.

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Acting Director
Economic Research

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